

REMARKS

Claim 6 has been canceled, and claim 7 has been amended as suggested by the Examiner. Therefore, Applicant requests the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw the objection to claims 6 and 7 (Office Action at page 2, paragraph 3).

Applicant also respectfully requests the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw the rejection of claims 1-5, 8 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, in view of the above corrective amendments to the independent parent claim 1.

Only claims 6 and 7 were rejected over prior art, and claim 6 has been canceled, thereby rendering moot its rejections.

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Misumi '576.

A rejection based on anticipation requires that Misumi disclose, either expressly or inherently, each limitation of claim 7, or in other words, that claim 7 be readable on Misumi's disclosure. Clearly such is not the case here.

More specifically, Applicant has added to claim 7 limitations from **allowable claim 2**, whereby claim 7 also now should be allowable because it clearly does not read on Misumi's disclosure.

On page 4, paragraph 11 of the application, the Examiner indicated that claims 1-5, 8 and 9 would be allowable if amended to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second

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paragraph. Since this rejection has been overcome by the above amendments, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-5, 7, 8 and 9 now are **allowable**.

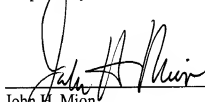
Thus, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw all rejections, and to find the application to be in condition for allowance with claims 1-5 and 7-9. However, if for any reason the Examiner feels that the application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to **call the undersigned attorney** to discuss any unresolved issues and to expedite the disposition of the application.

Applicant hereby petitions for any extension of time which may be required to maintain the pendency of this application, and any required fee for such extension is to be charged to

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Deposit Account No. 19-4880. The Commissioner is also authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 and/or § 1.17 necessary to keep this application pending in the Patent and Trademark Office or credit any overpayment to said Deposit Account No. 19-4880.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: June 25, 2003